Seven free programs at the state of Delaware's downtown Dover museums on Dec. 5 and 6, 2014

(DOVER, Del.—Dec. 2, 2014)—The state of Delaware's three downtown Dover museums—<u>The Old State House</u>, the <u>Johnson Victrola Museum</u> and the <u>First State Heritage Park Welcome Center and Galleries</u>—will be hosting seven special programs on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 5 and 6, 2014.



Scene from the Ballet Theatre of Dover's production of "The Nutcracker." A glimpse into the story and characters of the ballet will be presented during the "Nutcracker Storytime" event on Dec. 5, 2014.

Highlights include "Nutcracker Storytime" which will take place on Friday at 5:30 p.m. at The Old State House. Presented by the <u>Ballet Theatre of Dover</u>, the program will provide a

glimpse into the story and characters of Tchaikovsky's ballet "The Nutcracker." At 7:30 p.m. that same night, The Old State House will present host a performance of the folk-music duo Dan and James presented in in partnership with the <u>Delaware</u> Friends of Folk.

Finally, on Saturday, all three of the museums will present activities in conjunction with "First Saturday in the First State," a monthly series of events sponsored by the First State Heritage Park. A complete listing of programs is provided below. All events are free and open to the public. For additional information, call 302-744-5055.

December programs at the state of Delaware's downtown Dover museums

Friday, Dec. 5, 2014

"Nutcracker Storytime." Ballet Theatre of Dover to present a condensed version of Tchaikovsky's holiday favorite provides a glimpse into the story and characters of Tchaikovsky's ballet "The Nutcracker." The Old State House, 25 The Green, Dover. Program at 5:30 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Note change in program description.

Friday, Dec. 5, 2014

Dan and James. Folk duo specializing in folk-rock from the 60s and 70s. Presented in partnership with the Delaware Friends of Folk. The Old State House, 25 The Green, Dover. Program at 7:30 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014

"Dry as a Martini: Prohibition in Delaware." Guided tours explore how Delaware and its governments dealt with Prohibition. Stories of bootleggers, speakeasies, gangsters, politicians and federal prohibition agents of 1920s will be featured. First Saturday in the First State program. The Old State House, 25 The Green, Dover. 9 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014

"A Taste of Jazz: From the Beginning." Guided tours explore the sounds of the Jazz Age and the role played by Delaware's native son, E.R. Johnson in jazz-music history, accompanied by early-jazz recordings played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. First Saturday in the First State program. Johnson Victrola Museum, 375 S. New St., Dover. 9 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Program cancelled.

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014

"The Victors of World War I: The Power of Music." Guided tours will explore music's influence during World War I when patriotic songs were being composed throughout America. Hear 78-rpm recordings of this inspirational music played on authentic Victor Talking Machines, and explore how the Victor Talking Machine Company's Camden, N.J. factory led the fight to make the world safe for democracy. First Saturday in the First State program. Johnson Victrola Museum, 375 S. New St., Dover. 302-744-5055.

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014

Delaware Day awards ceremony. Event honors participants in the Delaware Department of State's 13th annual Delaware Day Fourth Grade Competition which challenges students to create displays that help illustrate and explain the U.S. Constitution and the role played by Delawareans in the writing and ratification of the nation's founding document. First State Heritage Park Welcome Center and Galleries, 121 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Dover. 10 a.m.

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014

"An Illegal Activity." Utilizing the exhibit "An Illegal Activity: The Underground Railroad in Delaware" as a backdrop, guided tours will explore Delaware's crucial role in the Underground Railroad and on two Delaware leaders who aided in this "freedom enterprise." First Saturday in the First State program. First State Heritage Park Welcome Center and Galleries, Delaware Public Archives building, 121 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Dover. Tours at Noon and 2

p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014

"Simple Pleasures: Picnic, Play and Dance." Utilizing authentic clothing and objects from the collections of the state of Delaware, Ann Baker Horsey, Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs' curator of collections, will discuss Edwardian and Roaring '20s fall and winter recreational activities and their associated fashions and sporting attire that reflected the spirit of the liberated "modern" woman. First Saturday in the First State program. The Old State House, 25 The Green, Dover. Program at 1 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Note change in program title and description.

-End-

Contact:

Jim Yurasek

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs

Phone: 302-736-7413

E-mail: <u>Jim.Yurasek@delaware.gov</u>
Web: http://history.delaware.gov